Partner with your Local Library for the 2020 Census

Help to Spread the Word - Help us get the message out that the library is for everyone. During this critical time, we want everyone to know that they can get Census 2020 support at their local library.

Language Support - While we hope to have the basics covered, we would love to collaborate with you on providing Census information sessions in any language spoken in the local community, in order to help to raise the count.

Coordinated Community Outreach Efforts - Do you have a population we can speak to or do you want to come to speak at a branch about the Census, during a program hour?

Utilize the Libraries' Resources - Do you need access to free community room space in a local library branch? Can we help in training your staff? What other resources can we tap into together?

Access Point - During the Census self-response period, libraries will welcome all New Yorkers seeking to complete their Census form. You can direct clients and patrons to any one of our 217 locations across all five boroughs. Additionally, 110 locations will have additional resources for Census support - including programming and additional devices dedicated to the Census.

Get in touch with us about potential partnerships:

Brooklyn Public Library
Contact: Amy Mikel
Census Coordination Lead / Manager of Civic Engagement
Email: amikel@bklynlibrary.org | Telephone: (718) 230-2294

The New York Public Library
Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island
Contact: Jay Brandon
Civic Engagement & Community Partnerships Manager
Email: jaybrandon@nypl.org | Telephone: (212) 621-0552

Queens Public Library
Contact: Nayelli Valencia Turrent
Director of Adult Services and Cultural Programs / Census 2020 Supervisor
Email: Nayelli.valenciaTurrent@queenslibrary.org | Telephone: (718) 990-8531

New York City Libraries and the Census

The City's three public library systems are essential providers of education and information in every corner of the five boroughs. Serving as community cornerstones and pillars of literacy and knowledge for more than a century, public libraries have tailored their free offerings to meet the needs of their diverse patrons. From technology classes to English-language instruction and citizenship test prep, early literacy workshops to afterschool programming and career and job search services, last year libraries offered more than 261,600 programs, drawing 4.6 million attendees. By making millions of books, research items, and digital resources freely available, libraries allow all New Yorkers to pursue their passions, access new opportunities, and continue on the path to success.

What is critical to our efforts and how we ultimately will view our success, will be determined by how well we as organizations work together to outreach in every community, spread awareness to those who lack the information and open our doors for all to take part in being counted.

- **Effective Partners:** With 217 locations–one in every New York City neighborhood–and more than 36 million visits every year, public libraries have unparalleled reach.

- **Community Conveners**: Public libraries are deeply embedded in every neighborhood. We can leverage existing relationships and partnerships with hundreds of local organizations, businesses, and community leaders to reach Hard-to-Count (HTC) populations.

- **Digital Access Points**: Public libraries consistently serve hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers on the wrong side of the digital divide, offering access to technology, Wi-Fi, and digital literacy courses. Libraries together hosted 7.5 million computer sessions and 5 million Wi-Fi sessions last year. Engaging these audiences is more important than ever with the current emphasis on online Census forms.

- **Trusted Messengers:** Vulnerable communities, especially new immigrants and traditionally HTC populations, trust their public libraries. A recent Quinnipiac poll reported 47% of New Yorkers not born in the US would be likely to fill out a Census form if they heard about it from their library.